

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00

FAA-00 L-03 /072 W

----- 060664

R 201916Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8050

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

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AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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MONTREAL FOR US REP ICAO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, ICAO, FR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: ICAO US CANDIDACY FOR SECRETARY GENERAL

REF: (A) STATE 35275, (B) STATE 38849

1. ON BASIS REF (A) WE SOUNDED OUT COPIN OF FOREIGN MINISTRY FEB. 17 ON STATUS OF LAMBERT CANDIDACY. COPIN SAID THAT LAMBERT CANDIDACY HAD ALREADY BEEN FORMALLY FILED WITH ICAO; HE BELIEVED THIS HAD OCCURRED FEB. 11. DECISION PROCEEDED WITH FILING, COPIN CLAIMED, HAD BEEN TAKEN ON BASIS EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT GOF HAD RECEIVED. COPIN VOLUNTEERED THAT SINCE KOTAITE AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT HAD LEGAL BACKGROUND, SYG POST SHOULD GO TO TECHNICIAN AND IN THIS REGARD LAMBERT HAD IMPECCABLE CREDENTIALS. COPIN WAS AWARE OF BRITISH INTENTION NOMINATE VIVIAN AS CANDIDATE.

2. RE PARA 11 REF (A), IN COURSE DISCUSSION WITH DOZ OF ECAC SECRETARIAT ON OTHER MATTERS, WE ASKED WHETHER ECAC WAS INTERESTED ITSELF IN ICAO SYG SELECTION THOUGH WE REALIZED THIS WAS OF COURSE TOPIC THAT WAS OUTSIDE ECAC'S OWN TERMS OF REFERENCE. DOZ SAID THAT AS ICAO CIVIL SERVANT HE HIMSELF WAS FOLLOWING ICAO SYG SITUATION CLOSELY, BUT HE ADDED THAT MOST OF HIS INFORMATION WAS IN FORM OF GOSSIP FED BACK TO HIM FROM ICAO HEADQUARTERS IN MONTREAL. DOZ SAID THAT ECAC DGCA'S IN THEIR PERIODIC MEETINGS COULD ALWAYS HAVE DISCUSSED ICAO SYG QUESTION INFORMALLY, THOUGH HE CLAIMED NOT TO BE INFORMED ON THIS POINT.

3. COMMENT: SINCE LAMBERT CANDIDACY HAS NOW BEEN FORMALLY
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FILED AND PREDATES DILLON CANDIDACY, GOF CAN BE EXPECTED CONTINUE ACTIVE LOBBYING ON LAMBERT'S BEHALF. WE SEE NO LIKELIHOOD GOF WILL WITHDRAW LAMBERT CANDIDACY, ESPECIALLY AS WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT LAMBERT IS "GISCARDIAN" WELL THOUGHT OF BY ELYSEE. MOREOVER, GOF MIGHT CONSIDER LAMBERT'S CHANCES IMPROVED IF THERE IS A PLETHORA OF

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CANDIDATES FOR SYG POST.

4. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INJECT A FEW WORDS OF CAUTION CONCERNING ARGUMENTS USG MIGHT USE IN SUPPORT OF DILLON VIS-A-VIS LAMBERT. IT IS NOT QUITE CLEAR FROM CONTEXT WHETHER PARA 11 REF (A) IS MEANT IMPLY FRANCE IS NOT A "MAJOR AVIATION STATE." FRENCH WOULD QUITE RIGHTLY TAKE STRONG EXCEPTION TO ANY SUCH INSINUATION. RE OBJECTION TO "FRENCH ORIENTATION" IN THAT SAME PARA, WE PRESUME WHAT IS MEANT IS "FRENCH-SPEAKING" OR "FRANCO-PHONE." WE SUSPECT GOF WOULD ARGUE THAT FRENCH-SPEAKING KOTAITE AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT IS NO BARRIER TO LAMBERT ELECTION AS SYG SINCE KOTAITE, REGARDLESS OF WHERE EDUCATED AND HOW PROFICIENT HE MAY BE IN A SECOND LANGUAGE, IS REP OF ARAB BLOC. WE ALSO NOTE FROM PARA 14 REF (A) THAT DILLON CANDIDACY REFLECTS USG POLICY OF PLACING QUALIFIED WOMEN IN POSITIONS OF IMPORTANCE. WHILE WE FULLY APPRECIATE AND WELCOME DILLON NOMINATION IN THAT REGARD QUITE APART FROM EMINENT PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS SHE WOULD BRING TO ICAO SYG POSITION, WE DO NOT KNOW HOW PERSUASIVE THE FEMINIST ARGUMENT WOULD BE WITH OTHER ICAO MEMBERS. FRENCH THEMSELVES WOULD NOT TAKE WELL TO BEING LECTURED TO ON THIS SCORE, SINCE THEY CAN POINT TO FIVE WOMEN SERVING AS MINISTERS IN THE PRESENT FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

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